IN THE CLAIMS

15. (Currently Amended) A certificate comprising:

an IC chip attached to ~~electronic tag attached on or put in~~ the certificate and storing ~~a~~ first information; and

~~wherein a~~ second information and a digital signature ~~are~~ printed on ~~the~~ a surface of the certificate, ~~;~~ ~~and~~

wherein the digital signature is generated from the first information and the second information.

16. (Currently Amended) The certificate according to claim 15, ~~;~~

wherein the digital signature is generated using RSA from ~~a linkage or a hashed linkage of~~ the first information and the second information ~~using RSA~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The certificate according to claim 15, ~~;~~

wherein the digital signature is a ~~sum or a~~ hashed sum of the first information and the second information using RSA.

18. (Previously Presented) The certificate according to claim 15, ~~,~~

wherein the first information is represented by x1, the second information is represented by x2 and the digital signature is represented by y, secret keys are represented by d and n, and the digital signature is obtained by the equation

y = (x1 + x2) **d mod n, where the function "+" represents linking of x1 and x2 to each other.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for issuing a certificate comprising:

a certificate paper-accommodating part which accommodates certificates comprising ~~electric~~ an attached IC chip ~~tags~~ which stores first information; and

a printing part which prints ~~a~~ second information and a digital signature on ~~the~~ a surface of the certificates, ~~,~~ ~~and~~

wherein the digital signature is generated from the first information and the second information.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19~~, 17~~

wherein the digital signature is generated using RSA from ~~a linkage or a hashed linkage of~~ the first information and the second information using RSA.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19~~, 17~~

wherein the digital signature is a ~~sum or a~~ hashed sum of the first information and the second information using RSA.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 19~~, 17~~

wherein the first information is represented by x1, the second information is represented by x2 and the digital signature is represented by y, secret keys are represented by d and n, and the digital signature is obtained by the equation

y = (x1 + x2) **d mod n, where the function "+" represents linking of x1 and x2 to each other.